

Amendments to the Claims:

1. (Currently amended) A rights management system for managing and enforcing rights to use digital ~~works~~ content, the system comprising:

at least one repository for enforcing rights associated with content;

one or more consequential rights that are linked to another right and that are associated with respective content, and that are exercisable only upon satisfaction of a consequential event including expiration or exercise of the another right; and

a right management module that manages the one or more consequential rights by enforcing use of the respective content based on the consequential rights, and permitting exercise of the consequential rights only after the satisfaction of the consequential event including the expiration or exercise of the another right to thereby provide sequential access to the respective content in accordance with the another right and the consequential rights.

2. (Previously presented) The system of claim 1, wherein the one or more consequential rights comprise one or more usage rights and one or more conditional values.

3. (Original) The system of claim 2, wherein the usage rights comprise at least one of viewing, printing, editing, approving, modifying, updating and copying.

4. (Currently amended) The system of claim 2, wherein the conditional values comprise at least one of an absolute value and a relative value that at least one of allow access or restrict access to one or more items of digital ~~works~~ content.

5. (Currently amended) The system of claim 1, wherein the one or more consequential rights are associated with one or more items of digital ~~works~~ content.

6. (Currently amended) The system of claim 5, wherein the items of digital works content comprise at least one of E-Books, books, documents, audio information, music, multimedia presentations and video information.

7. (Currently amended) A method of managing and enforcing rights to use digital ~~works~~ content in a system having at least one repository for enforcing rights associated with content of the digital works, the method comprising the steps of:

electronically determining one or more consequential rights, the consequential rights being linked to another right and associated with respective content and being exercisable only upon satisfaction of a consequential event including expiration or exercise of the another right;

associating the one or more consequential rights with the respective content;
and

enforcing use of the respective content based on the consequential rights, and permitting exercise of the consequential rights only after the satisfaction of the consequential event including the expiration or exercise of the another right to thereby provide sequential access to the respective content in accordance with the another right and the consequential rights.

8. (Previously presented) The method of claim 7, wherein the one or more consequential rights comprise one or more usage rights and one or more conditional values.

9. (Original) The method of claim 8, wherein the usage rights comprise at least one of viewing, printing, editing, approving, modifying, updating and copying.

10. (Currently amended) The method of claim 8, wherein the conditional values comprise at least one of an absolute value and a relative value that at least one of allow access or restrict access to one or more items of digital works content.

11. (Previously presented) The method of claim 7, wherein the one or more consequential rights are associated with one or more portions of information.

12. (Currently amended) The method of claim 7, wherein the digital ~~works~~ content comprise at least one of E-Books, music, multimedia presentations and video information.

13. (Currently amended) A computer-readable medium storing one or more computer readable instructions for a digital rights management language for managing and enforcing rights to use digital ~~works~~ content in a system having at least one repository for enforcing rights associated with content of the digital works, the ~~language comprising~~ computer readable instructions configured to cause one or more computer processors to perform the steps of:

specifying one or more usage rights that define the manner in which content can be used;

linking one or more consequential rights ~~that are linked~~ to another usage right and that are associated with respective content, the consequential rights being exercisable only upon satisfaction of a consequential event including expiration or exercise of the another usage right; and

providing an enforcement instruction that enforces the use of the respective content based on the consequential rights, and permits exercise of the consequential rights only after the satisfaction of the consequential event including the expiration or exercise of the another usage right to thereby provide sequential access to the respective content in accordance with the another right and the consequential rights.

14. (Currently amended) The ~~language~~ computer-readable medium of claim 13, wherein the usage rights comprise at least one of viewing, printing, editing, approving, modifying, updating and copying.

15. (Currently amended) The ~~language~~ computer-readable medium of claim 13, wherein the consequential rights comprise at least one trigger that at least one of allows access or restricts access to one or more items of digital works content.

16. (Currently amended) ~~An information storage media with information~~ A computer-readable medium storing one or more computer readable instructions for managing and enforcing rights to use digital ~~works content~~ in a system having at least one repository for enforcing rights associated with content of the digital works, the information storage media computer readable instructions comprising:

~~information~~ an instruction that determines one or more consequential rights, the consequential rights being linked to another right and that are associated with respective content and exercisable only upon satisfaction of a consequential event including expiration or exercise of the another right;

~~information~~ an instruction that associates the one or more consequential rights with one or more of the respective content; and

~~information~~ an instruction that enforces use of the respective content based on the consequential rights, and permits exercise of the consequential rights only after the satisfaction of the consequential event including the expiration or exercise of the another right to thereby provide sequential access to the respective content in accordance with the another right and the consequential rights.

17. (Currently amended) The ~~media~~ computer-readable medium of claim 16, wherein the one or more consequential rights comprise one or more usage rights and one or more conditional values.

18. (Currently amended) The ~~media~~ computer-readable medium of claim 17, wherein the usage rights comprise at least one of viewing, printing, editing, approving, modifying, updating and copying.

19. (Currently amended) The ~~media~~ computer-readable medium of claim 17, wherein the conditional values comprise at least one of an absolute value and a relative value that at least one of allow access or restrict access to one or more items of digital works content.

20. (Currently amended) The ~~media~~ computer-readable medium of claim 19, wherein the absolute value is at least one of a time, a date, an identity and a location.

21. (Currently amended) The ~~media~~ computer-readable medium of claim 19, wherein the relative value is at least one of based on the status of one or more other usage rights, and one or more events.

22. (Currently amended) The ~~media~~ computer-readable medium of claim 16, wherein the digital ~~works~~ content comprise at least one of E-Books, books, music, audio information, multimedia presentations and video information.

23. (New) The system of claim 1, wherein the one or more consequential rights comprise a plurality of consequential rights.

24. (New) The method of claim 7, wherein the one or more consequential rights comprise a plurality of consequential rights.

25. (New) The computer-readable medium of claim 16, wherein the one or more consequential rights comprise a plurality of consequential rights.